

ALEXANDRA CHACHEVITCH/TRIBUNE



Monday
AUGUST 15, 2016

★ **FREE** ★
A Chicago Tribune
publication

HOW MUCH CAN CHICAGO TAKE?

NUMBER OF PEOPLE KILLED, SHOT
CONTINUES TO CLIMB **PAGES 6-7**



It's hard to relax in Chicago **4** Olympics hit halfway mark **8** 'The Get Down' gets it right **10**



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The Tankard

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The Wicker Park spot from the co-owner of Compass Bar serves **casual fare** including Southwest chicken eggrolls, bratwurst and five varieties of loaded tater tots, plus craft beers and a menu of cocktails featuring a mango bellini and Hemingway daiquiri (both \$9). 4 p.m.-midnight.

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DRINK

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A VENETIAN PARTY

MK 868 N. Franklin St.
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A benefit for Chicago Shakespeare Theater celebrating its production of "The Merchant of Venice" features Venetian food, Italian wines and amaro cocktails (\$5-\$10) purchased by exchanging your money for silver and gold coins at a lending bank designed by Chicago artist Jordan Mozer. 6-9:30 p.m. \$20. Tickets: eventbrite.com

DO

SOUNDS LIKE CHICAGO:

A LIVE PODCAST FESTIVAL

Steppenwolf Theatre

1650 N. Halsted St. 312-335-1650

Watch live recordings of homegrown podcasts "Random Conversations with Elizabeth," "Wrestling With Depression" and "Nerdette" at the kickoff of the fest, which runs through Wednesday. 7 p.m.; doors open at 6:30. \$20. Tickets: steppenwolf.org

3-DAY FORECAST



MONDAY

82 71

Stormy day



TUESDAY

80 70

And again



WEDNESDAY

83 71

Some sun

HAPPY HOUR OF THE DAY

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Save the date

Eat, Drink, Do's weekly look at a month's worth of shows, tunes, foodie and boozy fun and more

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>August</p> <p>14</p> <p>TASTE OF SUMMER AT BRIDGEPORT ART CENTER 1200 W. 35th St. 773-247-3000</p> <p>Feast on grilled meat from area restaurants and vote for your favorite dish. The bash also includes a build-your-own loaded fries station, beer and frozen treats. 1-4 p.m. \$40-\$50. Tickets: events.thrillist.com/tasteofsummer</p> <p>21</p>	<p>Head back to Page 2 for today's Eat. Drink. Do. events.</p> <p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>'HAVING IT ALL' AT IO THEATER 1501 N. Kingsbury St. 312-929-2401</p> <p>An all-female ensemble shares stories and improv about the challenges facing women everywhere and in Chicago's theater scene, specifically including all the things girls are told to be and not to be. 10:30 p.m. \$5. Tickets: ioimprov.com</p> <p>17</p>	<p>CATALINA WINE MIXER AT BENCHMARK 1510 N. Wells St. 312-649-9640</p> <p>Sample more than 30 varieties of wine paired with appetizers, and if you find a bottle you like you can buy a bottle or case at a discount. A raffle awards a helicopter ride for two. 6-8 p.m. \$15-\$20. Tickets: benchmarkchicago.com</p> <p>18</p>	 <p>19</p>	<p>MORTIFIED AT LINCOLN HALL 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2501</p> <p>Performers from the show's 10-year run read their most private diary entries, poems, love letters and locker notes. Proceeds benefit the Rock School Scholarship Fund. 6 and 9:30 p.m. \$25 or \$40 for both shows. Tickets: lh-st.com</p> <p>20</p>
<p>22</p>	 <p>22</p>	<p>THE BOILERMAKER AT UNTITLED SUPPER CLUB 111 W. Kinzie St. 312-880-1511</p> <p>Sample beer from 20 craft breweries paired with 20 whiskeys and bites incorporating the flavors of both drinks. 7-10 p.m. \$25-\$30. Tickets: eventbrite.com</p> <p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>SCOTTISH FOLK NIGHT AT BIG BRICKS 3832 N. Lincoln Ave. 304-470-0980</p> <p>The Bach and Beethoven Ensemble hosts a celebration of Scottish culture including poetry readings, food, drinks and music from their upcoming production of "The Gentle Shepherd." 6:30 p.m. \$25. Tickets: bbensemble.org</p> <p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>MADDY'S DUMPLING HOUSE VEGETARIAN DIM SUM AT SALERO 621 W. Randolph St. 224-392-2683</p> <p>The BYOB pop-up serves an all-vegetarian dinner including eggplant shumai, mushroom soup dumplings and sweet potato noodles. Noon and 3 p.m. \$35. Tickets: brownpapertickets.com</p> <p>28</p>	 <p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>FOOD & WINE RECIPE CLASS AT LOCAL FOODS 1427 W. Willow St. 312-432-6575</p> <p>Butcher & Larder head butcher Rob Levitt leads a class where you'll learn how to cook a beef shank and make the garnishes for a taco party. Tickets include food, beer and a 10 percent discount at the store that day. 6-7:30 p.m. \$45. Tickets: eventbrite.com</p> <p>31</p>	<p>SMUDGED LIPSTICK REVUE AT MARY'S ATTIC 5400 N. Clark St. 773-609-3636</p> <p>The monthly burlesque variety show includes a raffle for handmade tassels and tickets to a future performance. Buy your ticket in advance and you'll also get a drink. 10:30 p.m. \$15. Tickets: brownpapertickets.com</p> <p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	 <p>6</p>	<p>IS IT STILL FUNNY? AT MUSIC BOX THEATRE 3733 N. Southport Ave. 773-871-6607</p> <p>Former Chicago Tribune film critic Mark Caro hosts a screening and discussion of the 1971 dark comedy "Harold and Maude." 7:30 p.m. \$12. Tickets: musicboxtheatre.com</p> <p>7</p>	<p>ADULT'S NIGHT OUT AT LINCOLN PARK ZOO 2150 N. Cannon St. 312-742-2000</p> <p>Explore the zoo after hours once the kids have all gone home and take advantage of animal chats and cash bars. 6:30-10 p.m. \$15-\$20. Tickets: eventbrite.com</p> <p>8</p>	 <p>9</p>	<p>RIVER NORTH WHISKEY FESTIVAL AT MOE'S CANTINA 149 W. Kinzie St.</p> <p>Sample more than 50 varieties of scotch, bourbon and whiskey from distilleries including Copper Fiddle Distillery, Chicago Distilling Company and Ole Smoky Tennessee Moonshine. Noon-4 p.m. \$50-\$60. Tickets: eventbrite.com</p> <p>10</p>

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the chatter JOIN THE CONVERSATION

What to do in Chicago on National Relaxation Day



The Second City
NETWORK

Diego Sanchez
» @TheSecondCity

Today is National Relaxation Day, and where better to soothe your stressed-out soul than in Chicago? Our city is known for three things: high homicide rates, corrupt politicians and being as laid-back as the Build-A-Bear you stuffed full of Ambien last time you

went to Navy Pier. Who needs a pillow and ZzzQuil? Here are five ways to celebrate in the Windy-But-More-Like-A-Gentle-Relaxing-Breeze City.

Take a scenic CTA trip

Walk up to your nearest train station, swipe that Ventra pass of yours a few times until it works and explore the city on the CTA. Sure, it's crowded! Of course people are rude. And yes, I understand that someone next to you just pooped. But nothing centers your life circle more than taking a long commute with your favorite book. While someone is so obviously playing with themselves in the back.

Go for a dip in Lake Michigan

Grab some sunscreen, a beach towel and your fave hazmat suit, and go for a swim! Enjoy the weather (while it lasts) as thousands of tourists (probably from Indiana) invade our little slice of heaven, leaving piles of garbage on our already-polluted shores. Rising water levels—a whopping 15 inches since last year—have already swallowed up many northern beaches and destroyed several bike

paths, but it doesn't matter. Anything north of Evanston isn't considered real Chicago, so we're cool.

Snag a one-way ticket to easy street

Become a politician, because they get away with so much stuff in Chicago that it would be a crime not to enjoy it! Get elected and then get loose—meaning both your stiff neck muscles and your moral code. Hey, if you're evil enough, they might do a "Chicago P.D." episode about you! And if you're Rod Blagojevich, you'll get eight more years at that Colorado all-inclusive.

Don't count sheep

Because how many sheep can there possibly be? Instead, try counting down from 2,539—which is the number (as of Thursday) of shootings in Chicago this year. This won't actually help you fall asleep, but it will most likely cause you to pass out from the realization that each one of those numbers represents a human being. All 2,539.

Get some aire fresco

Turn off your Blackberry and go for a jog—because you're running from Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Illinois immigration courts are currently backed up with over 20,000 deportation cases, leaving many seeking asylum stuck in a three-year limbo ... limbo party! Someone pour out the punch, because while you're waiting to reconnect with your loved ones, we're out here listening to Harry Belafonte and drinking Malört.

Ah, cheers to chilling in Chicago!

DIEGO SANCHEZ (@DIEGOINCHICAGO) IS AN ACTOR AND WRITER WHO LOVES HORCHATA, BOYSTOWN AND BEYONCÉ. GET MORE FROM THE SECOND CITY AT SECONDCITY.COM.



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news

WHAT'S IT GOING TO TAKE?

EIGHT MONTHS INTO 2016, CHICAGO'S HOMICIDE, SHOOTING TOTALS NEAR 2015'S

Chicago Tribune

On Sunday, one man died and three other people were wounded in shootings Sunday on the West and South sides, police said. Five people were killed and at least 19 others were wounded from Saturday afternoon to early Sunday morning. Three people were shot dead and at least 10 other people were wounded in attacks from Friday afternoon to early Saturday morning. ¶ These homicides and shootings are the latest in a long line of incidents that have caused the city's number of homicide and shooting victims to rise past the numbers of the same time last year, and closer to the totals of the whole of 2015 just eight months into 2016.



Police officers stand at the scene where a 44 year-old man was fatally shot in Washington Park in May. E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE FILE

Earlier this month, nearly 100 people were shot in Chicago in less than a week, pushing the number of shooting victims so far this year to more than 2,500—about 800 more than this time last year, according to data kept by the Tribune. The total for all of last year was 2,988.

Between the afternoon of Aug. 5 and early Aug. 11, at least 99 people were shot in the city, 24 of them fatally. At least nine people were killed last Monday alone, the deadliest day in Chicago in 13 years, according to Tribune data. (On July 5, 2003, 10 homicides were recorded, according to a Tribune analysis of police data.) Ten-year-old Tavon Tanner, who was shot in the back as he played on his front porch in Lawndale, was one of 19 people shot last Monday.

Last month, 65 people were killed in Chicago, a toll that pushed the number of homicides in the city at that time to nearly 400. The total for all of last year was 490. It was the deadliest July since 2006, when 65 homicides were also recorded, according to Chicago Police Department records. Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson noted that the month was still lower than June, when 72 homicides were reported.

At that halfway point of the year, homicides had jumped by 49 percent citywide, according to a Tribune report at the time, reaching levels unseen since the late 1990s. Shooting incidents have risen by even more, marking the third consecutive year of double-digit increases.

While it doesn't rank as the nation's murder capital on a per-capita basis, Chicago is the runaway leader in the sheer volume of killings and shootings. New York and Los Angeles don't even come close. Through June 19, Chicago had more homicides than those two larger cities combined, records showed. The two combined had fewer than 1,000 shooting victims during that same period, while Chicago had topped 1,900—about 10 a day. That rate has continued into August.

A complex mix of factors is driving the violence, but much of the bloodshed can be linked to gang conflict over everything from petty disputes to control of drug dealing, as well as the splintering of gangs into smaller cliques fighting over a few blocks at a time and easy access to guns, experts say.

Yet there are deeper societal problems at play as well, including long histories of poverty, joblessness, segregation and neglect in these crime-ridden neighborhoods.

The increased violence comes as the Police Department confronts an unprecedented crisis that has Chicago cops under the harshest light. The U.S. Justice Department is leading a wide-ranging probe of police practices in the wake of a video showing a white officer shooting black teen Laquan McDonald 16 times. More recently,

A woman grieves at a vigil for Africa Bass, who was killed in late July as she walked through her apartment complex in Chicago. GETTY IMAGES



Chicago Police officers investigate a shooting in Ashburn last week. ERIN HOOLEY/TRIBUNE



the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Paul O'Neal by a Chicago police officer has put additional scrutiny on the Police Department.

According to a Washington Post article earlier this month, FBI Director James Comey, who has publicly wondered whether increased scrutiny on police officers may be playing a role in homicide increases across two dozen big cities in the U.S., said this year that he was "very worried" about homicide increases. He expressed particular concern about killings largely grouped in certain areas away from tourists and busy business districts.

"I worry very much it's a problem that most of America can drive around," Comey told reporters during a briefing. He pointed out that

the surge in violence in places like Chicago or Las Vegas was not necessarily visible around the areas frequented by tourists in those cities, adding: "It's . . . happening in certain parts of the cities. The people dying are almost entirely black and Latino men. We can't drive around that problem."

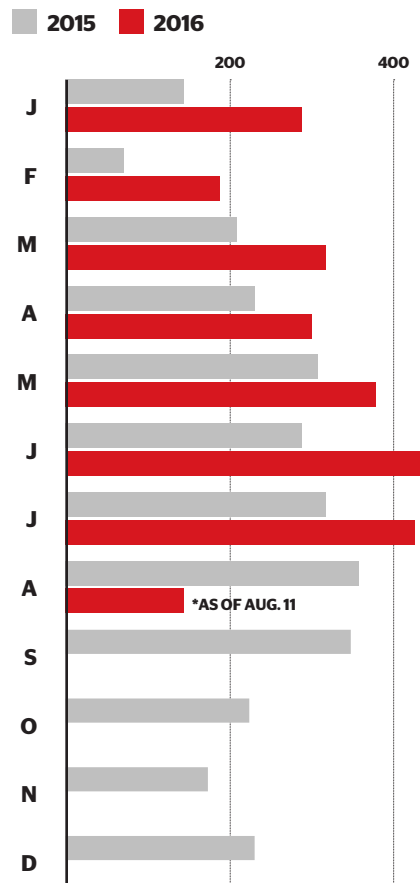
Johnson, Chicago's police superintendent, acknowledged that the same neighborhoods in Chicago have been taking the brunt of the gun violence.

"We shake our heads and ask why some of our communities on the West and South sides are being held hostage," he said at a news conference earlier this month.

THE WASHINGTON POST, REDEYE CONTRIBUTED.

SHOOTING VICTIMS

The graph below shows the number of shooting victims in Chicago per month in the past two years. The total as of Aug. 11 was 2,539.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE BREAKING NEWS

COP'S SON SHOT, KILLED; CASE BEING INVESTIGATED AS MISTAKEN IDENTITY

By Megan Crepeau, Rosemary Regina Sobol and Marion Renault

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The 19-year-old son of a Chicago police officer was shot and killed Sunday morning, hours before he was due to return to college in New York, police and family members said.



Arshell Dennis

The shooting took place in Wrightwood on the Southwest Side just after midnight, according to police.

Neighbors in the 2900 block of West 82nd Street reported hearing several gunshots. Police arrived to find 19-year-old Arshell Dennis and another man, 20, wounded by gunfire.

Dennis and a hometown friend were hanging out on the front porch of a residence when a gunman approached, possibly from a vehicle, and opened fire, police officials said.

Dennis was hit in the chest and taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park, where he was pronounced dead less than an hour after he was shot, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office.

The 20-year-old man was shot in the arm and side. He was taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn in serious condition.

Police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi confirmed that Dennis' father is a Chicago police officer. Officer Arshell "Chico" Dennis and Superintendent Eddie Johnson once worked together as patrol officers, Guglielmi said.

The younger Dennis, whom relatives called "Trey," was a student at St. John's University in New York City, according to his grandfather.

Dennis' death is being investigated as a case of mistaken identity, based on what detectives know about Dennis' family, about that block and about the neighborhood, according to Guglielmi.

"There was nothing in the victim's history that would suggest he is involved or associated in gangs, and he had no criminal record. Neither of the victims have criminal history or gang history or history with the CPD," Guglielmi said.

Detectives were canvassing the area, looking for video surveillance that could have captured the shooting. As of Sunday, there was no description yet of the gunman.



MEDAL COUNT				
Country				T
1. USA	26	20	21	67
2. China	15	13	17	45
3. Great Britain	14	16	7	37

(As of 7 p.m. Sunday)

RIO'S MIDPOINT WEEKEND SEES A U.S. MILESTONE, SOME RUDE REMARKS AND THE END(?) OF AN ERA

WE'RE HALFWAY THERE

Great Britain's Mo Farah (second from right) competes in the men's 10,000-meter on Saturday in Rio. GETTY IMAGES

By Chris Sosa | REDEYE

How is there less than a week left in this edition of the Olympics already? Seems like we've only just gotten to know Rio and its, er, quirks. Here's the best and worst of the second weekend and what you should be watching Monday:

WE LOVED IT WHEN...

The king went out on top. In what probably was Michael Phelps' final Olympic race (emphasis on probably), he gave the Americans the lead in the butterfly leg and his teammates did the rest. After five golds and a silver at these games, his final medal tally stands at 23 gold, three silver and two bronze. "This is how I wanted to finish my career," Phelps said. "Getting off the bus [and] walking into the pool tonight, I pretty much felt myself starting to cry. Last time putting on a suit, last time walking out in front of thousands of people representing my country." Long live the king.

Monica Puig achieved numerous firsts. The 22-year-old tennis player won Puerto

Rico's first gold medal in any sport. She's also her country's first female medal winner and the first unseeded player to win the Olympic tournament since the sport returned to the games in 1988. Puig simply was unstoppable this past week, defeating Angelique Kerber in the final 6-4, 4-6, 6-1.

Mo Farah fell down, but not out. The British runner's bid to defend his London gold in the men's 10,000-meter race (that's 10K, FYI) looked like it might be a no-go when, halfway through the final, he tripped on another runner and took a nasty tumble. But he was up within seconds, and he rallied, working his way back to the front of the pack and sprinting to a beautiful first-place finish. "Once you've fallen, it's hard to get back up and win," Farah told BBC



Monica Puig AP

Radio 5 after his victory. "I was thinking, 'No, no. I can't let Rhianna [his stepdaughter] down.' I always wanted to do it for her. My twins got the double gold from London and I promised this one to her. That's what drove me home."

U.S. women's eight rowing was made great again. Just kidding, it's been great and still is. The Americans—really a team of nine when you count the non-rowing coxswain at the stern of the boat—took their third straight gold in the event. Credit commentator Leigh Diffey with making it exciting for viewers over the final 500 meters. "What a boat. What a group of extremely talented, strong-minded women who have won gold and who have won gold only. ... [voice rising] Look at Katelin Snyder there in the coxman's seat, communicating with her friends, her family. Inspirational stuff from Team USA. ... It wasn't about the individuals in the boat, it's about the boat, it's about the history, it's about the legacy, and this Team USA women's eight is something sensational, not just this year but for the past 10 years. [VOICE RISING EVEN MORE] It's a dominant, it's a strong, and it's a true performance. Team USA going on to win gold here at the regatta stadium!"

The U.S. reached a humongous milestone. When the U.S. women won the 400-meter medley relay Saturday, it

marked the country's 1,000th Summer Olympics gold. As you might imagine, no other country is even in the same stratosphere: the defunct Soviet Union stands at 473, and no other nation is on pace to reach that touchstone until 2100. Good luck the rest of the century, everybody.

Simone Biles did it again. After Biles' gold-medal vault performance Sunday afternoon, one NBC commentator said, "She's making it look too easy right now. I think I'm actually upset about it." We're with him on the first part—seriously, how does she make it all look so effortless?—but we'll never be upset about how awesome she is.

WE HATED IT WHEN...

Hope Solo acted like sore loser. No doubt American soccer fans have been really spoiled by this team. Three World Cup titles and four Olympic gold medals will do that. So while it was disappointing to see them lose to Sweden in the quarterfinals on penalty kicks Friday, it was even more disheartening to see the goalkeeper's

comments, taking offense to the Swedes' defensive style. "I'm very proud of this [U.S.] team. But I also think we played a bunch of cowards. The best team did not win today." We know it's hard, but just pat the other team on the back and move on.

Jeff Henderson took a shot at a legend, even if he deserved it. Apparently Carl Lewis recently said he was disappointed with the Americans' current crop of long jumpers, an event he won an astonishing four times. When Henderson won the event Saturday (congrats on that, BTW!), he said, "I guarantee you Carl Lewis can't say much about it now." While true, it's not exactly a classy thing to say, Jeff.

Neymar nearly ignited a brawl. The Brazilian soccer star grabbed the headlines in his team's quarterfinal win over Colombia, and not just because he scored the game's first goal. After

Neymar was fouled deliberately from behind at midfield, he writhed on the ground for a bit and didn't get the call he wanted (though the offender did get a yellow card). So he took matters into his own hands, racing across the field to trip a Colombian player from behind. The dangerous foul stopped play for several minutes as players from both sides shoved each other. How Neymar was not issued a red card for that infraction, we'll never know.

Henrik Stenson trooled a calman. Maybe some people loved this, but we're giving it a big old NOPE. Look, even if you're the world's No. 5 golfer (and the weekend's silver medalist), caimans, a type of South American reptile in the alligator/crocodile family, still have a lot more teeth than you, so when your ball goes near one, you should definitely run, not poke it with your club like the Swedish golfer did on Saturday. NOPE.



GETTY IMAGES

Elena Delle Donne had to sit one out. The U.S. women trounced China 105-62 in their Sunday game, but they had to do it without the Sky guard-forward, who spent part of the game icing her eye after it was poked by a teammate's elbow in practice. Ouch! Here's hoping she's healed up and set to play again in Tuesday's quarterfinal against Japan.

Ryan Lochte got robbed. Literally. The multi-medalist and three other U.S. swimmers were held up at gunpoint early Sunday by men who pulled over their taxi, posing as police. Thankfully, no one was hurt, and although Lochte lost his wallet, it doesn't sound like the incident fazed him too much: He told an NBC reporter, "... The guy pulled out his gun, he cocked it, put it to my forehead and he said, 'Get down,' and I put my hands up. I was like 'whatever.'" Apparently after you've braved four Olympics, all other stressors are "whatever." @REDYESPORTS | CHOSOSA@REDYECICAGO.COM TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICES AND REDEYE'S MARGAUX HENQUINET CONTRIBUTED.

WATCH THIS

The best of the Olympics this weekend

Track and field

If you like your track and field with a bit of danger thrown in, the steeplechase is your event. Athletes not only have to leap over hurdles in this race, but there are water obstacles as well. It might seem kind of random, but once you delve into the event's roots in 19th-century Ireland, when competitors on horseback raced between towns using steeples as markers, it makes a bit more sense. Emma Coburn is the United States' best hope on the women's side, FYI. (7:30 a.m.)



GETTY IMAGES

Gymnastics

Monday features the individual event finals in the balance beam, rings and men's vault. For Team USA, that means Simone Biles can win yet another gold on the beam, and you don't want to miss that. (noon)

Track and field

One of the fastest women in U.S. Olympic history, Allyson Felix has four gold medals. But only one is an individual medal, for when she won the 200 meters in London. On Monday, she will try to chase down the title in the 400 meters. (6:15 p.m.)

WORD OF THE DAY

Rocket split

We're talking synchronized swimming here. According to NBCOlympics.com, this cool-sounding maneuver involves "a thrust to the vertical position, followed by a rapid leg split before returning to the vertical position at maximum height." We'll probably have to see it to fully understand it, and while the sport might seem a strange fit for the Olympics, it's amazing how long these athletes can hold their breath. Other terms you'll encounter watching synchronized swimming: egg-beater and flamingo. (Competition begins at 9 a.m.)



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GETTY IMAGES

Gymnastics
Monday features the individual event finals in the balance beam, rings and men's vault. For Team USA, that means Simone Biles can win yet another gold on the beam, and you don't want to miss that. (noon)

Track and field
One of the fastest women in U.S. Olympic history, Allyson Felix has four gold medals. But only one is an individual medal, for when she won the 200 meters in London. On Monday, she will try to chase down the title in the 400 meters. (6:15 p.m.)

WORD OF THE DAY
Rocket split
We're talking synchronized swimming here. According to NBCOlympics.com, this cool-sounding maneuver involves "a thrust to the vertical position, followed by a rapid leg split before returning to the vertical position at maximum height." We'll probably have to see it to fully understand it, and while the sport might seem a strange fit for the Olympics, it's amazing how long these athletes can hold their breath. Other terms you'll encounter watching synchronized swimming: egg-beater and flamingo. (Competition begins at 9 a.m.)

By Chris Sosa | REDEYE

How is there less than a week left in this edition of the Olympics already? Seems like we've only just gotten to know Rio and its, er, quirks. Here's the best and worst of the second weekend and what you should be watching Monday:

WE LOVED IT WHEN...

The king went out on top. In what probably was Michael Phelps' final Olympic race (emphasis on probably), he gave the Americans the lead in the butterfly leg and his teammates did the rest. After five golds and a silver at these games, his final medal tally stands at 23 gold, three silver and two bronze. "This is how I wanted to finish my career," Phelps said. "Getting off the bus [and] walking into the pool tonight, I pretty much felt myself starting to cry. Last time putting on a suit, last time walking out in front of thousands of people representing my country." Long live the king.

Monica Puig achieved numerous firsts. The 22-year-old tennis player won Puerto

Rico's first gold medal in any sport. She's also her country's first female medal winner and the first unseeded player to win the Olympic tournament since the sport returned to the games in 1988. Puig simply was unstoppable this past week, defeating Angelique Kerber in the final 6-4, 4-6, 6-1.

Mo Farah fell down, but not out. The British runner's bid to defend his London gold in the men's 10,000-meter race (that's 10K, FYI) looked like it might be a no-go when, halfway through the final, he tripped on another runner and took a nasty tumble. But he was up within seconds, and he rallied, working his way back to the front of the pack and sprinting to a beautiful first-place finish. "Once you've fallen, it's hard to get back up and win," Farah told BBC



Monica Puig AP

Radio 5 after his victory. "I was thinking, 'No, no. I can't let Rhianna [his stepdaughter] down.' I always wanted to do it for her. My twins got the double gold from London and I promised this one to her. That's what drove me home."

U.S. women's eight rowing was made great again. Just kidding, it's been great and still is. The Americans—really a team of nine when you count the non-rowing coxswain at the stern of the boat—took their third straight gold in the event. Credit commentator Leigh Diffey with making it exciting for viewers over the final 500 meters. "What a boat. What a group of extremely talented, strong-minded women who have won gold and who have won gold only. ... [voice rising] Look at Katelin Snyder there in the coxman's seat, communicating with her friends, her family. Inspirational stuff from Team USA. ... It wasn't about the individuals in the boat, it's about the boat, it's about the history, it's about the legacy, and this Team USA women's eight is something sensational, not just this year but for the past 10 years. [VOICE RISING EVEN MORE] It's a dominant, it's a strong, and it's a true performance. Team USA going on to win gold here at the regatta stadium!"

The U.S. reached a humongous milestone. When the U.S. women won the 400-meter medley relay Saturday, it

marked the country's 1,000th Summer Olympics gold. As you might imagine, no other country is even in the same stratosphere: the defunct Soviet Union stands at 473, and no other nation is on pace to reach that touchstone until 2100. Good luck the rest of the century, everybody.

Simone Biles did it again. After Biles' gold-medal vault performance Sunday afternoon, one NBC commentator said, "She's making it look too easy right now. I think I'm actually upset about it." We're with him on the first part—seriously, how does she make it all look so effortless?—but we'll never be upset about how awesome she is.

WE HATED IT WHEN...

Hope Solo acted like sore loser. No doubt American soccer fans have been really spoiled by this team. Three World Cup titles and four Olympic gold medals will do that. So while it was disappointing to see them lose to Sweden in the quarterfinals on penalty kicks Friday, it was even more disheartening to see the goalkeeper's

comments, taking offense to the Swedes' defensive style. "I'm very proud of this [U.S.] team. But I also think we played a bunch of cowards. The best team did not win today." We know it's hard, but just pat the other team on the back and move on.

Jeff Henderson took a shot at a legend, even if he deserved it. Apparently Carl Lewis recently said he was disappointed with the Americans' current crop of long jumpers, an event he won an astonishing four times. When Henderson won the event Saturday (congrats on that, BTW!), he said, "I guarantee you Carl Lewis can't say much about it now." While true, it's not exactly a classy thing to say, Jeff.

Neymar nearly ignited a brawl. The Brazilian soccer star grabbed the headlines in his team's quarterfinal win over Colombia, and not just because he scored the game's first goal. After

Neymar was fouled deliberately from behind at midfield, he writhed on the ground for a bit and didn't get the call he wanted (though the offender did get a yellow card). So he took matters into his own hands, racing across the field to trip a Colombian player from behind. The dangerous foul stopped play for several minutes as players from both sides shoved each other. How Neymar was not issued a red card for that infraction, we'll never know.

Henrik Stenson trolled a calman. Maybe some people loved this, but we're giving it a big old NOPE. Look, even if you're the world's No. 5 golfer (and the weekend's silver medalist), caimans, a type of South American reptile in the alligator/crocodile family, still have a lot more teeth than you, so when your ball goes near one, you should definitely run, not poke it with your club like the Swedish golfer did on Saturday. NOPE.



GETTY IMAGES

Elena Delle Donne had to sit one out. The U.S. women trounced China 105-62 in their Sunday game, but they had to do it without the Sky guard-forward, who spent part of the game icing her eye after it was poked by a teammate's elbow in practice. Ouch! Here's hoping she's healed up and set to play again in Tuesday's quarterfinal against Japan.

Ryan Lochte got robbed. Literally. The multi-medalist and three other U.S. swimmers were held up at gunpoint early Sunday by men who pulled over their taxi, posing as police. Thankfully, no one was hurt, and although Lochte lost his wallet, it doesn't sound like the incident fazed him too much: He told an NBC reporter, "... The guy pulled out his gun, he cocked it, put it to my forehead and he said, 'Get down,' and I put my hands up. I was like 'whatever.'" Apparently after you've braved four Olympics, all other stressors are "whatever."

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TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICES AND REDEYE'S MARGAUX HENQUINET CONTRIBUTED.

tv

Shameik Moore (from left),
Justice Smith, Tremaine Brown Jr.,
Skylan Brooks and Jaden Smith



Finding the right beat

AFTER 'VINYL,' 'ROADIES' FLOP, NETFLIX'S 'THE GET DOWN' TRIES TO HIT THE RIGHT NOTES



By Lorraine Ali | LOS ANGELES TIMES

From “American Idol” to “Empire,” television’s decades-long love affair with popular music seemed unshakable. But this year, viewers’ and critics’ devotion was challenged with “Vinyl” and “Roadies”—two major-budget, musical drama series by noted film directors that hit more bum chords than high notes.

Now Netflix is mining the burned-out tenements of 1970s Bronx for inspiration in “The Get Down.” Created by Baz Luhrmann (“Moulin Rouge!,” “The Great Gatsby”) and Stephen Adly Guirgis, the 12-episode series follows a group of teens in 1977 as they come of age during hip-hop’s birth in New York’s blighted outer boroughs.

A feeling of discovery permeates “The Get Down,” and it’s perhaps because Luhrmann picked a subject that hasn’t yet been mined to death by film and TV. Rock biopics have told the story of everyone from Jerry Lee Lewis to Joy Division, but hip-hop has been less explored. It’s a younger genre, therefore its beginnings have only just started to become the thing that we miss.

The series, which premiered Friday, comes on the heels of HBO’s widely panned “Vinyl.” Co-created by Martin Scorsese and Mick Jagger, it was a record mogul’s wide-lapelled stroll through the dawn of punk rock in 1970s New York. “Vinyl” cost a reported \$100 million to make and was canceled after one season.

Cameron Crowe’s “Roadies” on Showtime was also recently released to little fanfare. It’s a starry-eyed look at the men and women behind the scenes who make the rock concert magic happen. Though it’s set in the present, the backstage culture of “Roadies” curiously resembles that of Crowe’s film “Almost Famous,” a movie also based in the boomer-beloved rock scene of the 1970s.

Both shows were scorned by critics and social media alike for relying on old clichés—groupies, drugs, mirrored sunglasses—rather

than original storylines or complex characters. Plus, no one really wanted to hear “It’s all about the music, man!” one more time, and both of the shows couldn’t stop saying it.

The assumption that there would be a demand for such shows, however, is understandable. Rock itself has been in an uninspired rut for some time as pop and EDM have replaced guitar, bass and drums as the music of choice for Millennials, and both series tried to rekindle the fire. Rock was popular music’s apex, they seemed to insist, so why move on?

Which brings us to hip-hop.

“The Get Down” has plenty of problems: pacing, messy storylines and stiff acting by new faces. But when it comes to capturing the spirit and essence of a critical era in music’s evolution, it works where “Vinyl” and “Roadies” did not.

The success of films about rap history like “Straight Outta Compton” and shows on the industry like “Empire” signal a shift. FX’s “Atlanta,” a series about two cousins’ climb to the top of that city’s rap scene, premieres in September, and “Star,” a musical drama featuring an all-girl R&B group, was picked up earlier this year by Fox.

“The Get Down” cost a reported \$120 million to make, and one has to wonder how much of that budget went to music licensing,

As he did with “Moulin Rouge” and “Gatsby,” Luhrmann makes the soundtrack a crucial part of each episode. Hits by Earth, Wind & Fire and Donna Summer permeate the hot summer Bronx air, while songs such as “Superfly” and “Turn the Beat Around” inspire impromptu dance numbers by gangsters in clubs and girls at the hair salon.

The brilliance here is that many of the disco and soul songs played throughout “The Get Down” are tracks that were sampled over and over again by hip-hop’s pioneering DJs. They were cornerstones of early rap until sampling gave way to the production of original beats. Luhrmann does his own mixing and sampling here, splicing obscure funk and soul with AM disco hits and modern-day material.

Respected rap veteran Nas wrote songs and lyrics specifically for “The Get Down” (he’s listed as an executive producer), and the show’s lead character Zeke (Justice Smith) possesses a rap style and backstory similar to that of Nas. Zeke’s lyrics are about the streets around him, his broken family life, his place in society.

Such stories have not been the mainstay of music dramas or biopics in the white-dominated industry of television, and creators have traditionally turned to genres they knew best—rock and pop.

Luhrmann is renowned for his varied music tastes, but as a white man growing up in Australia, he wasn’t weaned on the music of pioneering acts like DJ Kool Herc or Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five.

So to get it right, Luhrmann sought the help of hip-hop historian Nelson George on “The Get Down.” George is to Luhrmann’s series what Jagger was to “Vinyl”—an expert on the genre’s history. He helped provide context, nuance and detail beyond the old-school trimmings of Puma sneakers and big gold chains.

“The Get Down” is also willing to toy with the mythology of early hip-hop in ways that the recent failed rock dramas did not. Luhrmann paints Grandmaster Flash as an almost supernatural being, a Zen master in the eyes of his fans who cites Bruce Lee as a higher inspiration.

In one key scene, Flash (Mamoudou Athie) shows Zeke and his crew the new art of spinning two records at a time to produce one new groove. Manning two turntables, he shows his protégés how to pick and choose the beats they like. In essence, turning old, tired material into something exciting and new.

Find the beat you like best “and forget the rest. It’s history,” he advises.



Justice Smith as Zeke

ALSO COMING IN AUGUST

Need an escape from the hot outdoors? Want a break from the Olympics? Whatever you’re looking for, there’s got to be something to keep you entertained among all the shows premiering and returning in the next few weeks.

—MARGAUX HENQUINET, REDEYE

NEW

AUG. 16

» Andrew Zimmern’s Driven By Food (8 p.m., Travel)

AUG. 17

» Unlocking the Truth (10 p.m., MTV)

AUG. 19

» Fearless (Netflix)

AUG. 22

» Food Network Star KIds (7 p.m., Food)
» Too Close to Home (8 p.m., TLC)

AUG. 23

» Better Late Than Never (9 p.m., NBC)

AUG. 24

» Cleveland Hustles (9 p.m., CNBC)
» Gomorrah (9 p.m., Sundance)

AUG. 25

» Desert Filppers (10 p.m., HGTV)

AUG. 26

» Blue Collar Backers (9 p.m., Discovery)

RETURNING

AUG. 15

» Love & Hip Hop: Hollywood (Season 3, 7 p.m., VH1)

AUG. 18

» 60 Days In (Season 2, 8 p.m., A&E)

AUG. 21

» Fear the Walking Dead (Season 2 part 2, 8 p.m., AMC)

AUG. 23

» Adam Ruins Everything (Season 2, 9 p.m., TruTV)
» Halt and Catch Fire (Season 3, 8 p.m., AMC)
» Ink Master (Season 8, 9 p.m., Spike)

AUG. 25

» RuPaul’s Drag Race: All Stars (Season 2, 7 p.m., Logo)

AUG. 27

» Aquarius (Season 2, 8 p.m., NBC)

AUG. 28

» The Strain (Season 3, 9 p.m., FX)

AUG. 31

» You’re the Worst (Season 3, 9 p.m., FX)

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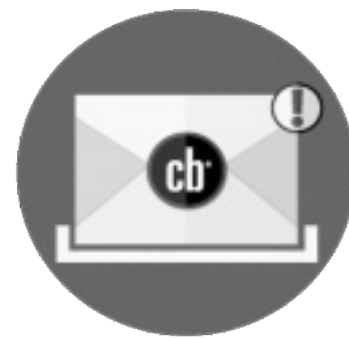
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Leo July 23–Aug. 22

Anticipate a week of fulfillment in your love life. In fact, you and your mate might be ready to make a real commitment to one another if you've been on the fence about this recently. When it's right, you just know.



Virgo Aug. 23–Sept. 22

This week, the intensity of your love for someone will be impossible to ignore. You might realize that your feelings for a person you recently started dating run deeper than you expected, or an already-established bond of love will become more beautiful.



Libra Sept. 23–Oct. 22

On Tuesday, you and your partner can expect the unexpected in your social life. Or, you two might make progress on a shared aspiration. Dating someone new? On Thursday, you'll know for sure whether you want to continue to pursue this person.



Scorpio Oct. 23–Nov. 21

A love connection is probable this week. If you are with friends, one might introduce you to someone you instantly feel a connection with. Alternatively, you might be looking for love-life advice and seek out the counsel of a pal. He or she won't steer you wrong.



Sagittarius Nov. 22–Dec. 21

A sexy love connection is possible this week with someone you ordinarily wouldn't consider your type. Be willing to expand your horizons and consider getting to know someone who is everything you thought you never wanted in a mate.



Capricorn Dec. 22–Jan. 19

The intensity of love you have for your partner will be felt even more than usual this week, and you'll be able to express it in the most positive way. If you are traveling this week, you've chosen the perfect time.



Aquarius Jan. 20–Feb. 18

Cool, detached and calm is the way you prefer to handle life and love. On Thursday, however, a Full Moon in your sign demands that feelings are expressed. This isn't the time to shy away from sharing sentiments with your lover.



Pisces Feb. 19–March 20

On Wednesday, your mate could be instrumental in helping you achieve a long-held goal. You might share this aspiration, and if so, the success will be even sweeter. Life and love are grand this week. Enjoy every drop!



Aries March 21–April 19

This Tuesday, you'll make an inventive move on someone that has the potential to truly captivate. By showing off the most unusual parts of your personality, you'll easily attract others your way. In fact, the more eccentric the better!



Taurus April 20–May 20

If you recently started to date someone, you'll feel as if things are progressing quickly, but you'll know it's right. If you're in a committed partnership, you'll have the potential to enjoy a mind-expanding week together.



Gemini May 21–June 20

If you and your partner are planning to purchase a home or other real estate together, this week everything might finally begin to gel. Move forward with confidence as you sign contracts or secure a loan or other mortgage.



Cancer June 21–July 22

This will be a great week for communication with your mate. You might have a conversation that strengthens your relationship or make a decision about your future. If you have decided on a prenuptial agreement, this is the perfect time to finalize and sign off on it.

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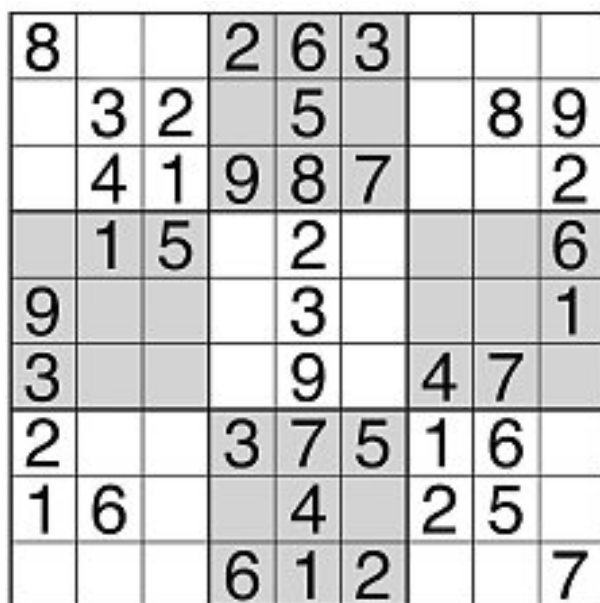
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FRIDAY'S SOLUTIONS



TODAY'S CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

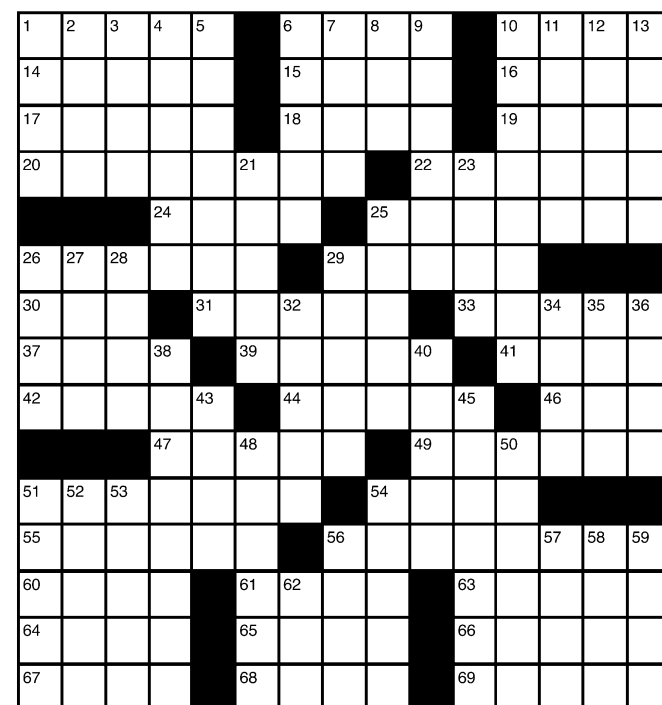
- » Rapper **Chief Keef**, 21
- » Actor **Carlos Pena Jr.**, 27
- » Actor **Anthony Anderson**, 46
- » Actress **Jennifer Lawrence**, 26
- » Actress **Emily Kinney**, 31
- » Actress **Debra Messing**, 48
- » Singer **Joe Jonas**, 27
- » Actor **Ben Affleck**, 44
- » Actor **Rondell Sheridan**, 58

ACROSS

- 1 Slide a credit card through a machine slot
- 6 High-five sound
- 10 Pointed tools
- 14 Claw
- 15 Stack
- 16 Barking marine mammal
- 17 Narrow water passage
- 18 John Milton's "Paradise"
- 19 Indian woman's robe
- 20 Hold back
- 22 Come into view
- 24 Torn in two
- 25 Bureau of drawers
- 26 Sprawling tree
- 29 Credit cards, for many
- 30 Lamb's mother
- 31 Hauled behind
- 33 Skin-numbing injection
- 37 Drop of joy or sorrow
- 39 Exciting tales
- 41 Impolite
- 42 Fall flower
- 44 Bury
- 46 Cry from the flock
- 47 Kid around with
- 49 Renovate
- 51 Driveway's surface
- 54 Think deeply
- 55 High-pitched, as a scream
- 56 Uniformity
- 60 Wrought __; fence material
- 61 __ on; trampled
- 63 Wall recess
- 64 Dip into liquid
- 65 Luau dance
- 66 Lake near Reno, Nevada
- 67 Breakfast order
- 68 Finishes
- 69 Makes a mess at the table

DOWN

- 1 Mixer speed
- 2 Dwindle
- 3 Troubles
- 4 Wordsworth's specialty
- 5 Plead
- 6 __ up; go separate ways
- 7 Roaring beast
- 8 Gore & his dad
- 9 Sellers & Finch



- 10 Property value determiner
- 11 Is clothed in
- 12 T-shirt size
- 13 More devious
- 21 Bother
- 23 Lunch or dinner
- 25 " We Almost Have It All"
- 26 Alpha's follower
- 27 Astounds
- 28 __ as a pin
- 29 Author Jules
- 32 Midsection
- 34 Castro's land
- 35 Eve's hubby
- 36 Jump
- 38 Reconsiders
- 40 Antitoxin
- 43 Genuine
- 45 Feels put out about
- 48 __ time; constantly
- 50 Like lesser sins
- 51 Put __; shelve
- 52 __ off; disregard
- 53 Fork time
- 54 __ a wet hen
- 56 Traded for cash
- 57 Resound
- 58 Small store
- 59 Observes
- 62 Gallop

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THE QUOTE

"I SUDDENLY UNDERSTOOD WHY PEOPLE [BECOME SINGERS] FOREVER. THERE'S AN EXTRAORDINARY EFFECT THAT MUSIC HAS ON PEOPLE, IT CREATES SUCH JOY IMMEDIATELY."

—Tom Hiddleston, during a SAG-AFTRA Q&A on Friday night in Los Angeles, talking about how his perception of performers changed, according to [eonline.com](#). The actor elaborated by talking about performing on stage in front of the cast and crew of his 2015 film "I Saw the Light." He added, "I didn't know [it] was going to make us feel like we've known each other for years."



The knot is tied

Kevin Hart has married his longtime girlfriend, Eniko Parrish. According to [people.com](#), the wedding took place in California after a nearly two-year engagement. The couple posted photos of their nuptials on Instagram. Hart's son, Hendrix, one of his two children with his first wife, was his best man. Congrats to the happy couple!



INSTAGRAM

THE DIGIT

\$33.6M

That's about how much money "Sausage Party" earned at the box office this weekend. According to [deadline.com](#), that's the biggest opening ever for an animated film in August. DC's "Suicide Squad" dropped 67 percent from the weekend before, earning about \$43.77 million, Deadline reported.



Actor Thomas Gibson hires lawyer amid firing

After being fired from "Criminal Minds" on Friday after an on-set altercation with a producer, former star Thomas Gibson might be considering legal action against the show. According to [eonline.com](#),

Gibson has hired a Los Angeles-based law firm to pursue the case. Gibson said in a statement, "I love Criminal Minds and have put my heart and soul into it for the last twelve years. I had hoped to see it through to the end, but that won't be possible now."



GETTY IMAGES
FILE

Rumor has it ... wrong

Adele has shut down rumors that she would be performing at the 2017 Super Bowl. According to [variety.com](#), at a concert in Los Angeles on Friday, Adele told the crowd, "First of all, I'd like to say that I'm not doing the Super Bowl. I mean, come on, that show is not about music, and I don't really—I don't dance or anything like that. So they were very kind, they did ask me, but I did say no." Bummer.

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